

'Contending for the Faith'

Jude 3-4

Jude 3-4 - The phrase "contend for the faith" has three descriptors; 'ungodly people', 'pervert the grace of God', and, 'deny our Master and Lord, Jesus Christ'.

Godly lives - integrity, knowledge of God and His Word, practices personal purity and self-control

Reminder: 2 Timothy 3:12; Philippians 1:29; 1 Peter 2:21

God's grace in our lives - Ephesians 1:3-14

Reminder: Galatians 1:6-9; 3:11b

Affirming the life and work of the Lord Jesus Christ - New Testament books, Jesus' deity, (Nicaea in 325 AD; Constantinople in 381 AD; Chalcedon - 451 AD)

1 Corinthians 15

First, the gospel depends on it - 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Second, witnesses testified to the resurrection - 1 Corinthians 15:5-8

Third, our sin problem required a certain death - 1 Corinthians 15:12-20a

But we know that Jesus rose from the dead! (20a)

Fourth, the resurrection resolved our death problem - 1 Corinthians 15:20b-50 - (Job 19:26; Ezekiel 37:1-4; Daniel 12:2; John 6:44; Acts 4:1-2; Ephesians 2:6-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Romans 6:3-5)

Concept: It was the resurrection that initiated the joy of being in Christ. Without the resurrection, life is meaningless; but with the resurrection anything in life that is hard can be endured.

Reminder: The Covenant of Redemption demands a full re-creation of all things in order that what the Father and Holy Spirit promised the Son, is fulfilled. The Son completed the work that the Father gave him and the Father and the Holy Spirit will complete the gift by seeing to it that all that was tainted by sin is renewed and that includes the resurrection of all who have died in Christ.

Conclusion: I contend for some kind of faith; but is it the faith that is revealed in Scripture? If it's the faith revealed in scripture then it's Godly by Biblical standards; its all about grace by Scriptural standards and it fully embraces and proclaims the Bible's statements and revelations about Jesus Christ. That contending always includes a firm belief in the resurrection of our Lord and a firm faith that one day, I too, by God's grace, will likewise, rise from the dead to live with him for eternity.